client", which appeared in the Times of India, dated the 29th January, 2002;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether criminal case has been registered against the lawyer; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) and (b) With respect to the news-item captioned "Lawyer's licence suspended for duping client", which appeared in the Time of India dated 29.01.2002, the Bar Council of India has informed that the advocate, Ms. Debakie Rani Sharma has been suspended from the roll of advocates maintained by the Bar Council of Delhi for a period of two years, *vide* the Order of the Disciplinery Committee of the Bar Council of India, dated 25.11.2001 in D.C. appeal No. 33/2001 titled Smt. Savitri Devi *Vs* Ms. Debakie Rani Sharma. The Committee also ordered the respondent to pay cost of Rs. 5,000/- to the appellant.

(c) and (d) Bar Councils are only empowered to punish advocates for professional or other misconduct by reprimand, suspension or removal of their names from the rolls of advocates. It is open to the aggrieved party to seek other legal remedies, including prosecution of the advocate under criminal proceedings, at the appropriate fora.

Judges-population ratio in democratic countries

1576. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the percentage of judges per million population in the country is the lowest in comparison to other democratic countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the measures proposed to create more posts of judges and fill them for quicker settlement of pending cases in various courts?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) and (b) As per the Eleventh Law Commission's 120th Report on "Manpower Planning in Judiciary: A Blue Print"—July, 1987, the strength of judicial officers in India was far less as compared to strength of judges in certain other countries. At present, there are 13.08 judges per million population in the country.

(c) The Judge strength in the High Courts is reviewed once in three years. The State Governments have been periodically requested to fill up vacant posts in Subordinate Judiciary. Minister of Law, Justice and Company Affairs has also *vide* his d.o. letter dated 4.4.2001 requested the State Government to accord the utmost priority to filling up of vacant posts of Judges and Magistrates.

In addition to above, the Eleventh Finance Commission has recommended the establishment of 1,734 additional courts known as Fast Track Courts for the purpose of speedy trial of sessions and other cases. As on 28th February, 2002, 1018 Fast Track Courts had already been set up throughout the country.

Reward to the judges for expeditious disposal of cases

1577. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA:
SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN'

Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to reward the judges who will dispose of the pending cases expeditiously;

(b) if so, the details of guidelines issued in this regard and when were these issued;

(c) whether any target has been planned to dispose of the cases